

REMARKS

Claims 1- 49 were originally pending. Claims 2-6, 8-16, 18 -22, 24-34 and 36-40 were amended. Claims 1, 7-8, 17, 23, 30, 35 and 41-49 were canceled without prejudice. No claims were added or withdrawn. Accordingly, claims 2-6, 9-16, 18-22, 24- 29, 31-34 and 36-40 remain pending.

Withdrawal of the rejections and objections to the pending claims is respectfully requested in view of the above indicated amendments and the following remarks.

Claim Amendments

The preambles of dependent method claims have been changed from "[a] method of" to "[t]he method of". Similarly, the preambles of dependent computer-readable medium claims have been changed from "[a] computer-readable medium as recited in claim" to "[t]he computer-readable medium of claim". Analogously, the preambles of dependent computing device claims have been changed from "[a] computing device as recited in claim" to "[t]he computing device of claim".

35 USC §101 Rejections

Claims 1-7, 9-22, 24-34, 36-44 and 47-49 stand rejected under 35 USC §101. Specifically, regarding claims 1, 7, 17, 30 and 41, the Action indicates that the claimed subject matter fails to disclose an indication of the practical application for the claimed subject matter. In addressing this rejection, please note that claims 1, 17, 30 and 41 have been canceled without prejudice. Additionally, independent claims 9, 24, 25, 36 and 37 have been amended to illustrate an

indication of practical application for the claimed subject matter. For example, each of these independent claims 9, 24, 25, 36 and 37 recites “returning ranked search results for presentation to the end-user, the ranked search resulting being ranked as a function of the relevance”, as described in the specification, for example, at paragraphs [0038] and [0041]. Applicant respectfully submits that returning search results for presentation to an end-user illustrates practical application and useful results. The Office seemingly agrees with this assessment, as these features were included in original claim 8, which was not rejected under this section.

Withdrawal of the 35 USC §101 rejections of claims 9, 24, 25, 36 and 37 is requested.

Dependent claims 2-7, 9-16, 18-22, 24-29, 31-34 and 36-40 respectively depend from one of the base claims discussed above that illustrate practical application and useful results. Accordingly, and at least for reasons based on their respective dependencies on these basic claims, these dependent claims also illustrate practical application and useful results.

Withdrawal of the 35 USC §101 rejection of these dependent claims is requested.

Claim Objections

Dependent claims 9, 24, 25, 36 and 37 have been placed into independent claim format by including all of the features of their respective base claim and any intervening claims. All dependent claims now depend from an allowable base claim. The preambles of all dependent claims have been amended to more

particularly illustrate antecedent basis on their respective base claim or intervening claim.

Conclusion

The pending claims in this application are in condition for allowance, and action to that end is urgently requested. If there are any remaining issues which would hinder such allowance, the Applicant invites the Examiner to please call the undersigned to discuss any such issues prior to generating a subsequent office action.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dated: March 30, 2007

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